

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS – PLYMOUTH DISTRICT
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**BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT ARRAIGNED ON CHARGES HE
POSSESSED, DISSEMINATED CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

BROCKTON – A Bridgewater State University freshman has pleaded not guilty to charges he possessed and distributed child pornography, Plymouth County District Attorney Timothy J. Cruz announced today.

Thomas J. Masse (DOB: 09/05/97) of New Bedford, pleaded not guilty in Brockton District Court this morning to one count each of possession of child pornography and distribution of material depicting a child in the state of nudity.

Bridgewater State University Police arrested Masse Monday night after university police received information that he had allegedly downloaded images from an Internet website and shared them through an online chat room.

Masse posted \$1,000 cash bail last night to a clerk and that bail was re-instated at today's arraignment. He was ordered to refrain from using the Internet, use no electronic devices including Smartphones, and stay away and have no contact with children under 16 as well as places that children congregate. Masse is next scheduled to appear in court on December 28 for a probable cause hearing.

Bridgewater State University said no members of the community were involved and that Masse has not had any contact with children on campus.

Bridgewater State Police continue to investigate and said there is no evidence that Masse used the university's network.

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